

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MOSCOW 06738 161345Z

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 BIB-01 /059 W

-----170025Z 018782 /14

R 161217Z MAY 77

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7422

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY MADRID

USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, SP, UR

SUBJ: LA PASSIONARIA DEPARTS

REF: (A) MADRID 3726, (B) MADRID 3778

SUMMARY: DELORES IBARRURI IS GIVEN HERO'S SEND-OFF BY SOVIET LEADERSHIP, WHILE SPANISH PARTY AND OTHER SPANISH COMMUNIST LEADERS ARE TOTALLY IGNORED. END SUMMARY.

1. THE DAY AFTER AN ASSOCIATE PICKED UP HER SIGNED PASSPORT FROM THE SPANISH EMBASSY HERE -- SHE WORKED ONLY THROUGH INTERMEDIARIES IN GETTING HER DOCUMENT -- DOLORES IBARRURI DEPARTED MOSCOW BY PLANE FOR SPAIN. THE SOVIET PRESS AND LEADERSHIP GAVE HER A HERO'S SEND-OFF. POLITBURO MEMBER, M.A. SUSLOV, LED STAR-STUDDED CAST AT THE

AIRPORT CEREMONIES MAY 13. ALSO ON HAND WERE CANDIDATE

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PAGE 02 MOSCOW 06738 161345Z

POLITBURO MEMBER, B.N. PONOMAREV; DEPUTY CHIEF OF THE CC INTERNATIONAL DEPARTMENT, V.V. ZAGLADIN; CC MEMBER AND SOVIET WOMEN'S COMMITTEE HEAD, V.V. NIKOLAYEVA-TERYISHKOVA; WAR VETERAN'S COMMITTEE CHIEF, GENERAL L.I. BATOV; AND OTHERS.

2. SUSLOV HAD HIGH PRAISE FOR IBARRURI, "THE SYMBOL

OF THE STRUGGLE OF THE SPANISH PEOPLE AGAINST FASCISM." "WE ARE DEEPLY CONVINCED", HE SAID, THAT SHE WILL CONTINUE TO PLAY A MAJOR ROLE IN THE INTERESTS OF "FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN OUR PARTIES" AND PEOPLES. SUSLOV FAILED TO MENTION EITHER THE PCE OR ANY OTHER PCE LEADER AND TRANSMITTED THE GOOD WISHES OF THE POLITBURO AND OF BREZHNEV TO HER ALONE. IN RESPONSE, IBARRURI ASSURED HER "SOVIET COMRADES" THAT THE PCE, WHICH HAS "GREAT INFLUENCE" NOW IN SPAIN, WILL REMAIN A "TRUE WARRIOR" OF SOCIALISM AND OF MARXISM-LENINISM.

3. AS PART OF THE UNUSUAL ATTENTION GIVEN IBARRURI DEPARTURE RADIO AND TV COVERAGE WAS SUBSTANTIAL AND PRAVDA MAY 13 CARRIED A STATEMENT BY THE PCE CHAIR-WOMAN WHICH WAS MOST NOTEWORTHY FOR ITS LAVISH PRAISE OF THE SOVIET UNION AND THE "GREAT SOVIET PEOPLE".

4. COMMENT: THE WARMTH OF LA PASIONARIA'S FAREWELL CEREMONIES ARE THE MORE INTERESTING FOR THE TOTALLY PERSONAL NATURE OF THE PRAISE AND GOOD WISHES BESTOWED ON HER TO THE EXCLUSION OF ALL OTHER SPANISH COMMUNISTS. SUSLOV'S APPEARANCE IS ALSO SIGNIFICANT SINCE HE IS THE CHIEF PARTY IDEOLOGUE AND GUARDIAN OF ORTHODOXY. HIS OMISSION OF ANY REFERENCE TO THE PCE OR ITS LEADERS AND THE FAILURE TO CONVEY ANY MESSAGE FROM THE CPSU TO THE PCE THROUGH IBARRURI IS A CLEAR SIGN OF DISFAVOR TOWARDS THE PCE AND CARRILLO. SUSLOV MAY WELL HOPE FOR HER TO PLAY A MAJOR ROLE WHEN SHE ARRIVES IN SPAIN, BUT IT IS A MEASURE OF THE WEAK LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 MOSCOW 06738 161345Z

POSITION THE CPSU IS IN WITH RESPECT TO THE PCE THAT THIS LIVING RELIC IS THE ONE ON WHOM THE SOVIETS MUST RELY.
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Message Attributes

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Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 16-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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